STATIONERY, IRELAND.

Returns, from the Customs and Stamp Office Departments, to an Order of The Honourable House of Commons, dated 5th February 1821;—*for*,

Copies of all COMMUNICATIONS made to the Irish Government, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer, within five years last past, from the departments of Excise, Customs, or Stamp Duties, respecting the supply of STATIONERY to the said Departments, by the Patentee, Abraham B. King; and of any PROCEEDINGS taken in consequence thereof, and a Statement of the Result of such Proceedings:—Viz.

(1.)—CUSTOMS, IRELAND.

—NIL.—

Custom House, Dublin, 16th February 1821.

W. LE POOR TRENCH.

(2.)—STAMPS, DUBLIN.

—NONE.—

Stamp Office, Dublin, 13th February 1821.

PETER HOLMES, Secy.

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(Ireland.)

STATIONERY, IRELAND.

Returns, from the Customs and Stamp Office Departments, to an Order of The Honourable House of Commons, dated 5th February 1821;—*for*,

Copies of all COMMUNICATIONS made to the Irish Government, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer, within five years last past, from the departments of Excise, Customs, or Stamp Duties, respecting the supply of STATIONERY to the said departments, by the Patentee, Abraham B. King; and of any PROCEEDINGS taken in consequence thereof, and a Statement of the result of such Proceedings.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 12 *March* 1821.

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EXTRACTS FROM

Returns to an Order of the Honourable House of Commons, dated 5th February 1821;—*for*

COPIES OF ALL COMMUNICATIONS

Made to the Irish Government, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer, within five years last past, from the departments of Excise, Customs, or Stamp Duties, respecting the Supply of STATIONERY to the said departments by the Patentee, Alderman *Abraham B. King*, and of any Proceedings taken in consequence thereof; and, a Statement of the result of such Proceedings.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 6 *March* 1821.

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SUPPLY OF STATIONERY TO PUBLIC OFFICES IN IRELAND.

—(1.)—

POST OFFICE.

Return to an Order of The Honourable House of Commons, dated 13 March 1821;—*for*

Copy of the CASE laid by the Post Office of Ireland, in the year 1815, before any Counsel in Ireland or England, together with their Opinions thereon, respecting the right of the Patentee to a preference in the supply of Stationery to the Post Office:—*Viz.*

Copy GRANT unto Mr. *Abraham Bradley*, of the office of Stationer to His Majesty; dated 25th March 1761.

GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith and so forth; TO all unto whom these Presents shall come, greeting: WHEREAS the office and place of our Stationer, in our said kingdom of Ireland, is now in our disposal, KNOW ye therefore, That We of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, by and with the advice and consent of the most reverend Father in God, our right trusty and right entirely beloved counsellor, George Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all Ireland, our right trusty and right well beloved cousin and counsellor, Henry Earl of Shannon, and our right trusty and well beloved counsellor, John Ponsonby esquire, our Justices General, and General Governors of our said kingdom of Ireland, have given and granted and by these Presents we do give and grant unto Mr. Abraham Bradley, of the city of Dublin, the office and place of our Stationer in our said kingdom of Ireland, for serving with all sorts of Stationery Ware, all offices within our said kingdom, which are supplied therewith at our charge, except only such offices which by some prior grant, or by usage are to be served with wares of that kind by any other particular officer, together with all rights, privileges, profits, commodities, perquisites, emoluments, and advantages whatsoever thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, or which therewith ought to be held and enjoyed; and him the said Abraham Bradley, our Stationer in our said kingdom of Ireland, for serving with all sorts of Stationery Ware all offices within our said kingdom of Ireland, which are supplied therewith at our charge, excepting as aforesaid, we do by these Presents make, nominate, constitute and appoint, To have, hold and enjoy the said office or place of our Stationer in our said kingdom of Ireland, for serving with all sorts of Stationery Ware all offices within this our said kingdom, which are supplied therewith at our charge, excepting as aforesaid, unto him the said Abraham Bradley, in as full and ample manner, to all intents and purposes, as he the said Abraham Bradley, or any other person or persons formerly held and enjoyed the same, to be exercised and executed by him the said Abraham Bradley, or his sufficient deputy, to be approved of by the Chief Governor or Governors of this our kingdom of Ireland, for the time being, during our pleasure: And our royal will and pleasure is, and we do by these Presents command and require all our officers within our said kingdom of Ireland, who are supplied with Stationery Ware at our charge, excepting as aforesaid, that they do from henceforth, from time to time, take up and buy from the said Abraham Bradley, during his continuance in said office, as much Stationery Ware as our affairs shall require, and they shall in any wise stand in need of: And our further will and pleasure is, that these our Letters Patent, and every clause, sentence and article therein contained, shall be in by and through all things, firm, good, valid, sufficient and effectual in the law, unto him the said Abraham Bradley, as well in all our courts within our said kingdom of Ireland, as elsewhere wheresoever: Provided always, That these our Letters Patent be enrolled in the Rolls of our High Court of Chancery, in our said kingdom of Ireland, within the space of six months next ensuing the date of these Presents. In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. Witness our aforesaid Justices General, and General Governors of our said kingdom of Ireland, at Dublin, the twenty-fifth day of March, in the first year of our reign.

Inrolled the third day of April, in the first year of the reign of King George the Third.

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Copy GRANT of the Office of Stationer to His Majesty, to *Abraham Bradley* and *Abraham Bradley King*, during pleasure, and to the Survivor, dated 19 December 1780.

GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith and so forth; TO all unto whom these Presents shall come, greeting: KNOW ye, That We of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, by and with the advice and consent of our right trusty and right well beloved cousin and counsellor, John Earl of Buckinghamshire, our Lieutenant General and General Governor of our said kingdom of Ireland, have revoked determined and made void the Letters Patent whereby we did give and grant unto Abraham Bradley, during our pleasure, the office and place of our Stationer in our said kingdom of Ireland, and by these Presents we do revoke determine and make void the same: KNOW ye further, That we of our like special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, have given and granted, and by these Presents we do give and grant, unto the said Abraham Bradley and Abraham Bradley King and the survivor of them, the said office and place of our Stationer in our said kingdom of Ireland, and them the said Abraham Bradley and Abraham Bradley King, and the survivor of them, our Stationer in our said kingdom of Ireland we have made, constituted and ordained, and by these Presents we do make constitute and ordain, To have, hold and enjoy the said office and place of our Stationer in our said kingdom of Ireland unto them the said Abraham Bradley and Abraham Bradley King, and the survivor of them, for and during our pleasure, and to serve with all sorts of Stationery Ware all offices within our said kingdom of Ireland, which are supplied therewith at our charge (excepting only such offices which by some prior grant or by usage are to be served with wares of that kind by any other particular officer,) together with all profits, perquisites, emoluments and advantages thereunto belonging, in as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes, as the said Abraham Bradley or any other person or persons formerly held and enjoyed the same, to be exercised and executed by them the said Abraham Bradley and Abraham Bradley King, or the survivor of them, or their sufficient deputy, or the sufficient deputy of the survivor of them during our pleasure as aforesaid, to be approved of by the Chief Governor or Governors of our said kingdom of Ireland for the time being: And our royal will and pleasure is, and we do by these Presents command and require all our Officers within our said kingdom of Ireland, who are supplied with Stationery Ware at our charge (except as aforesaid) that they do from henceforth from time to time take up and buy from the said Abraham Bradley and Abraham Bradley King, or from the survivor of them, during the continuance of them or the survivor of them in the said office, all such Stationery Ware as our affairs shall require, and they shall in anywise stand in need of: And our further will and pleasure is, that these our Letters Patent, and every clause, sentence and article therein contained, or the inrolment thereof, shall be in all things firm, good, valid, sufficient and effectual in the law, unto them the said Abraham Bradley and Abraham Bradley King, and the survivor of them, as well in all our Courts within our said kingdom of Ireland as elsewhere wheresoever: Provided always, That these our Letters Patent be inrolled in the Rolls of our High Court of Chancery in our said kingdom of Ireland, within the space of six months next ensuing the date of these Presents. In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. Witness our aforesaid Lieutenant General and General Governor of our said kingdom of Ireland, at Dublin, the nineteenth day of December in the twenty-first year of our reign.

Inrolled the twentieth day of December one thousand seven hundred and eighty.

Copy of OPINION of Thomas B. Vandeleur, Esquire.

I am of opinion, That Alderman King is entitled, by virtue of the Patent above stated, to supply the Post Office with all such Stationery as may be required for the use of the Department.

THOMAS B. VANDELEUR,
Gloucester Street,
November 28th, 1814.

General Post Office, March 24th, 1821. } (A true Copy.) *Edwd S. Lees*, Secretary.

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—(2.)—

BOARD OF ORDNANCE.

Return to an Address to His Majesty, from The Honourable House of Commons, dated 1 March 1821;—*for*

Copy of any CASE laid before His Majesty's Crown Lawyers, in Ireland or England, respecting the validity of the Patent granting to Abraham Bradley and Abraham Bradley King, the Office of Stationer to His Majesty, in Ireland; and also, of their Opinions thereon.

CASE on behalf of His Majesty's Stationer in Ireland; with the Opinion of the Solicitor General, Mr. Bushe, respecting a claim which he then made in right of his office, to be entitled to supply certain offices under the Government with Stationery Wares.

Quere.—YOU will advise on the part of the Crown, under the before-mentioned Patent of the 19th December 1781, what right the Patentees have to supply Stationery Wares, and to what offices in Ireland, and which are supplied at the Public charge?

(Copy OPINION.)

I HAVE read the Patent to Messrs. Bradley and King, granting to them the office of His Majesty's Stationer in Ireland, and am of opinion, that they are entitled by virtue of it, to supply exclusively with Stationery all the Public offices in Ireland, whose Stationery is provided at the expense of the Crown; unless there be some other officer of the Crown possessed of a prior grant to supply any of these offices with Stationery, or who in right of his office, had been used prior to the Patent of Messrs. Bradley and King to supply any such office; but excepting such prior right from Patent or usage of some other Public office, the Patentees are under the Patent, entitled to supply all such Public offices as aforesaid with Stationery.

(Signed) Wm Saurin,

25th November 1812.
Stephen's Green.

(A true Copy.)

Wm. Fyers. W. Rogers. R. Coleman. A. Mills.

CASE on behalf of His Majesty's Stationer in Ireland.

1781.—By Letters Patent of this date, Messrs. *Abraham Bradley* and *Abraham Bradley King* were appointed His Majesty's Stationers in Ireland.—(*See* said Patent.)

Alderman King is now the surviving Patentee, and conceives that by the terms of said Patent, he is of right entitled to supply with all sorts of Stationery Wares, all offices in Ireland which are supplied therewith at the public expense, excepting only such offices which by some prior grant or usage, are supplied with wares of that kind by any other particular officer.

By the recent failure of individuals who have heretofore supplied with Stationery the office of Commissioners for managing the respective offices of His Majesty's Ordnance Department, &c. &c. vacancies have occurred in the offices of Stationer thereto; and Mr. King is desirous of obtaining the supply of such offices in future, and of supporting his right, as well as the right of the Crown thereto, under Letters Patent. And you will therefore please to observe, that the Public cannot be, in any degree, prejudiced thereby, as Mr. King's charges for Stationery Wares are according to the rates fixed by the general body of Stationers in Dublin.

See 8th Report of Commissioners of Inquiry in Ireland, page 103.

You will please to state Whether, in your opinion, Querist is entitled, by said Patent, to be appointed Stationer to, and to supply with Stationery Wares, such public offices as are supplied therewith at the Public expense, and are not now supplied by any other particular officer; as also such offices as may hereafter be created during the continuance of said grant?

And also to point out what steps Querist should take to maintain any right you may think he possesses under said grant?

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(Copy—Mr. Solicitor General's OPINION.)

IF the individuals who have lately failed, were *particular officers*, who, by prior grant or usage, had supplied the Ordnance and other offices alluded to in this case with Stationery, I am of opinion, that the failure of the individuals does not take away the rights of the offices which they held, to the privilege of supplying Stationery.

If on the contrary, these individuals did not hold such offices, but merely as private traders, supplied the Stationery, I am of opinion, that they never had a right so to do; and that their doing so, was a breach of Alderman's King's patent, (provided that the Stationery in the departments which they supplied, was paid for at the King's expense); and in such cases, I should advise Alderman King to memorial the Lord Lieutenant, stating the facts, and praying that those several departments may be ordered in future to deal with the Patentee.

What I understand by the words *particular officers* in the Patent, is persons holding an office in the particular department, the duty of which is by grant or usage, to supply the department with Stationery.

(Signed) CHARLES BUSHE,
Dec. 21, 1810.

(A true Copy.)

Wm. Fyers. W. Rogers. R. Coleman. A. Mills.

INSTRUCTIONS for the further Advice and Opinion of the Right honourable the Attorney General.

Mr. Attorney General will please again to read over the Copy Patent to Mr. King.
Mr. King's letter to the respective officers of 15th November last.
The memorial of Mr. King.
The answer of the respective officers to the Ordnance solicitor's queries.
Mr. Attorney General's opinion of the 25 November last (1812).
Mr. King's reply, observations, and information on that subject.

And Mr. Attorney General will please to observe that the Revenue Department still employ their own contractors.

And that the respective officers, by employing contractors by public advertisement and competition, save the public great expense.

And Mr. Attorney General will please now to advise if he conceives the respective officers are bound to employ Alderman King as their stationer, under his patent.

Note.—A contractor has been named and appointed by the respective officers of Ordnance, for three years, from 31 December last, 1812.

(Copy OPINION.)

I HAVE considered the subject of this Case, and the several documents referred in it; and it is my decided opinion, that so long as Mr. King's patent remains in force, he is entitled to supply their Stationery to the several public boards, where Stationery is paid for by the Crown; and such opinion I have given to the Revenue Board, who are, in like manner bound to take their Stationery from Mr. King, which if they do not, they, so far as lies in them, rescind and frustrate the Crown's grant to him.

It may be true, that, by advertisement, contractors might be found who would at least undertake to supply Stationery on cheaper terms than Mr. King; but this is not a reason that the public boards should counteract and invalidate the grant of the Crown. It is, in my opinion, the duty of Mr. King, in the exercise of the right conferred on him by this patent, to supply Stationery on fair and reasonable terms; it will be the business and duty of government to take care that he shall accordingly exercise his right; and the Boards who shall be supplied by him will be not only justified, but bound in duty to represent to government, if at any time they should be advised that his terms are not in all respects fair and moderate; and it is and will be in the power of government to enforce such terms of dealing on his part. It is, therefore, my opinion, that in no other manner can the validity of Mr. King's patent and the public interest be reconciled, and if by such course there should still be an advantage to Mr. King to the prejudice of the revenue, the answer to that objection (if it should exist) is, that the patent has given it, and that it is for the Crown alone to decide whether it shall be revoked or not.

(Signed) Wm SAURIN.
February 1814.

(A true Copy.)

Wm. Fyers. W. Rogers. R. Coleman. A. Mills.

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SUPPLY OF STATIONERY TO PUBLIC OFFICES IN IRELAND.

(1.) POST OFFICE.

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Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
2 *April* 1821.

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